

1. A system for processing transaction data comprising:

a substitute draft system operable to receive a retrieval request and to generate a substitute draft in response to the retrieval request;

5 a merchant interface coupled to the substitute draft system, the merchant interface operable to generate a merchant request in response to the retrieval request, and

a mediation charge system coupled to the merchant interface, the mediation charge system operable to receive a mediation charge and to generate a merchant mediation charge if no response has been received to the merchant request.

2. The system of claim 1 further comprising an inhibit system coupled to the substitute draft system, the inhibit system operable to receive the retrieval request and to inhibit the substitute draft system so as to prevent the substitute draft system from generating the substitute draft.

Claim 3 is hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

4. The system of claim 1 further comprising a merchant system coupled to the merchant interface, the merchant system operable to receive the merchant request and to notify an operator of the merchant request.

5. The system of claim 4 wherein the merchant system is operable to retrieve identification data in response to the merchant request and to transfer the identification data to the merchant interface system.

6. The system of claim 1 further comprising a bank card system coupled to the substitute draft system, the bank card system operable to transmit the retrieval request to the substitute draft system and to receive the substitute draft.

7. The system of claim 6 further comprising a bank system coupled to the bank card system, the bank system operable to generate the retrieval request and to receive the substitute draft from the bank card system.

**Claims 8 through 10 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.**

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11. A method for processing a retrieval request comprising:  
receiving the retrieval request;  
generating the substitute draft if it is determined that a retrieval request code is not in a  
set of retrieval requests codes that would prohibit the generation of the substitute draft; and  
5 generating a merchant request in response to the retrieval request.

12. A method for processing a retrieval request comprising:  
receiving the retrieval request;  
generating the substitute draft if it is determined that issuing bank data is not in a set of  
issuing bank data that would prohibit the generation of the substitute draft; and  
5 generating a merchant request in response to the retrieval request.

*A3*  
13. A method for processing a retrieval request comprising:  
receiving the retrieval request;  
generating the substitute draft if it is determined that bank card agency data is not in a set  
of bank card agency data that would prohibit the generation of the substitute draft; and  
5 generating a merchant request in response to the retrieval request.

14. A method for processing a retrieval request comprising:  
receiving the retrieval request;  
generating the substitute draft if it is determined that transaction amount data is not in a  
set of transaction amount data that would prohibit the generation of the substitute draft; and  
5 generating a merchant request in response to the retrieval request.

15. A method for processing a retrieval request comprising:  
receiving the retrieval request;  
generating the substitute draft if it is determined that card user data is not in a set of card  
user data that would prohibit the generation of the substitute draft; and  
5 generating a merchant request in response to the retrieval request.

16. A system for processing transaction data comprising:  
a bank system operable to generate a retrieval request in response to user-entered data;  
a bank card system coupled to the bank system, the bank card system operable to receive  
the retrieval request from the bank system;

5 a transaction system coupled to the bank card system, the transaction system operable to  
receive the retrieval request from the bank card system and to generate a substitute draft and a  
merchant request in response to the retrieval request, the transaction system is operable to assess  
a mediation charge against the merchant system if the merchant system has not generated sales  
draft data in response to the merchant request; and

10 a merchant system coupled to the merchant interface, the merchant system operable to  
receive the merchant request and to generate sales draft data in response to the merchant request.

17. The system of claim 16 wherein the transaction system is operable to receive bank  
system data with the retrieval request, and wherein the transaction system is operable to generate  
the substitute draft in response to the retrieval request and the bank system data.

A 3 18. The system of claim 16 wherein the transaction system is operable to receive card  
user data with the retrieval request, and wherein the transaction system is operable to generate  
the substitute draft in response to the retrieval request and the card user data.

19. The system of claim 16 wherein the transaction system is operable to receive  
transaction amount data with the retrieval request, and wherein the transaction system is operable  
to generate the substitute draft in response to the retrieval request and the transaction amount  
data.

Claim 20 is hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

A 4 21. (NEW) The method of claim 11 wherein determining that the retrieval request  
code is not in a set of retrieval requests codes that would prohibit the generation of the substitute  
draft is performed prior to receiving the retrieval request.